

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear President Biden,

As members of the U.S. House of Representatives representing Travis, Hays, and Williamson counties, we write to request that you grant the State of Texas' request for a major disaster declaration in response to the recent ice storm that resulted in widespread power outages, property damage, infrastructure damage, and environmental damage, as well physical and financial hardship and danger for so many of our neighbors.

Following this severe winter storm that left thousands without power in our hometown of Austin, the City and Travis, Hays and Williamson counties have issued Disaster Declarations. Recently, Governor Greg Abbott did the same for Travis, Hays, and Williamson counties and the surrounding area and sent a letter requesting a Presidential Disaster Declaration. We understand that the Federal Emergency Management Agency is evaluating this request.

The size and scope of these storms require additional coordination and a wider range of long-term federal recovery programs. Therefore, we urge you to place the highest priority on approving this request for an expedited major disaster declaration and expeditiously provide all categories of public assistance, and direct federal assistance for all counties set forth in the Governor's request, as well as hazard mitigation statewide.

We look forward to your help in providing federal assistance to the many who have suffered loss in this recent disaster. We are available, together with local officials, to supply any additional information that may be of help in approving the request.

Sincerely,



Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress



Greg Casar
Member of Congress